INFORMATION REPORT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY
Hungary

SUBJECT
Preparations for Atomic Warfare

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT # 50X1-HUM

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Hungarian army is making preparations for an atomic war. The training for this kind of warfare is very intensive. Offensive atomic operations are reserved for the Soviet army, leaving only auxiliary actions to the Satellite armies.

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2. In the course of defense preparations, special sections have been set up in all Hungarian units. (Each infantry battalion has one section with thirty men.) Besides these measures within the army in active service, a number of reserve officers have been drafted for a three-month training course organized all over Hungary. The course was held in Szekesfehervar in the Soc-To military barracks in the part reserved for the signal unit. Twelve officers and about sixty soldiers took part in it. The names of instructors were as follows:

   a. Capt Jozsef Sebok, commanding officer of the signal unit and of the course.

   b. Lt Ferenc Zentai, chief instructor.

   c. The code number of the course was 9471/T.

3. This course, was almost exclusively practical without any general instructions on the basic principles of the scientific background of atomic warfare. Above all, the participants were acquainted with the changes in organization and tactics following the adjustment to this modern kind of warfare.

4. The first step undertaken in Hungary in this line was the introduction of the sections already mentioned. These sections are divided into three teams. All soldiers received special uniforms protecting them from radioactivity. These uniforms are made of rubber-coated lead folios. Each soldier also received a pair of thigh-high boots made of the same material. Each special section is equipped with three portable Geiger counters of a very simplified type, produced in the USSR, bearing the Hungarian name "Sugar Feldarito Keszulek". This instrument weighs six kilos and has a dry battery which will supply current for 24 hours. The instrument consists of the following main parts:

   a. Antenna, about one meter high

   b. Scale with four main markings in different colors, each divided into two parts. The colors indicate the strength of radiation detected.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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1. White: 1-5 degrees (of "radioactivity")

   Part A: Area can be entered, clear for actions.

   Part B: Access only in special boots.

2. Yellow: 5-10 degrees

   Part A: Area can be entered only with vehicles.

   Part B: Vehicles only, men have to carry rubber boots and special coats. (The same kind of coat used for protection from gas.)

3. Red: 10-20 degrees

   Part A: Vehicles only, men have to wear protecting clothes.

   Part B: Area can be entered only in special uniforms protecting the whole body.

4. Black: 20 degrees and over; no actions are possible.

c. Switch (on-off)

d. Electric Precisor - narrowing the turning of the scale.

e. Earth connected with a plate within the instrument.

5. All scales are marked with luminous paint. The instrument reaches as far as one kilometer, i.e. it detects all radioactivity within this range.

6. Aside from this special equipment, the special defense sections have colored fire-balls in yellow and red, and little flags in the same colors to mark areas infected with radioactivity. The meaning of the colors is identical to the one on the Geiger-counter scale.

7. In general these special sections will be attached to sub-units sent for reconnaissance during operations. This atom-patrol will have to wear the special uniforms.

8. The possibility of atomic warfare also caused changes in the battle-array for defense. Up to the present time an infantry battalion was supposed to cover a segment 700 m wide and 300 m deep. In the case of an atomic war, this segment will be 1,500 m wide and 400-500 m deep. In the course of offensive actions, an infantry battalion had to cover 400-500 m width, which now has been increased to 700-one thousand m.

9. Additionally, a number of precautions for an eventual atomic war have been worked out for the soldiers:

   a. Never lie on the ground without using the special coat as an under-blanket

   b. Do not lean against any objects

   c. Neither drink nor eat anything found in an infected area, only nourishment handed out by army.

   d. Canned food can only be used if the radiation does not exceed five degrees.

   e. Do not cross rivers or streams without preliminary examination of radioactivity.

   f. In an endangered zone cover all parts of the body not protected by a special uniform with special ointment.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

g. When leaving zones with radiation 10-20 degrees uniforms have to be changed and disinfected.

h. Soldiers suffering from burns caused by radiation will not be moved back but will be treated in a special field hospital where they have to remain for a certain period of time.

10. The participants also received instructions on how to recognize atomic explosions without the help of special equipment. They were briefed on the following phases of detonation:

a. Short detonation

b. White flash turns into bright red ball with beams

c. Second detonation, similar to thunder

d. Some kind of smoke mushroom

e. --in case such a detonation is noticed, soldiers should immediately turn their backs to the place of detonation, lie down on their special coats and hide their face in their arms. Remain at least three minutes in this position.

11. Among other things mentioned in the course were the consequences of atomic explosions:

Flash:	in a distance up to one km	- blinding
	up to five km	- disturbances of eye-sight for a short time
Heat Wave:	fatal within one km	
	within one-two km	- heavy burnings and possible explosion of fuel
Radioactivity:	fatal or very dangerous only within two km of the explosion.	

12. All these prescriptions are very general. The officers taking part in the course received special guidance aside from these general instructions. Signal units, for example, have to be equipped once again with cables since the radioactivity might jam transmissions. [redacted] hilly and forest areas is much less inclined to carry radioactivity. If possible, therefore, actions should be planned in such terrain. Since horses are hardly to be protected from radioactivity, the motorization of the Hungarian army will be accelerated. [redacted] the production of Geiger-counters has already started in Hungary and that several vehicles of the Hungarian army will be equipped with this device.

Enclosure A: Sketch of the Soe-To Signal Unit Barracks

Enclosure B: Legend

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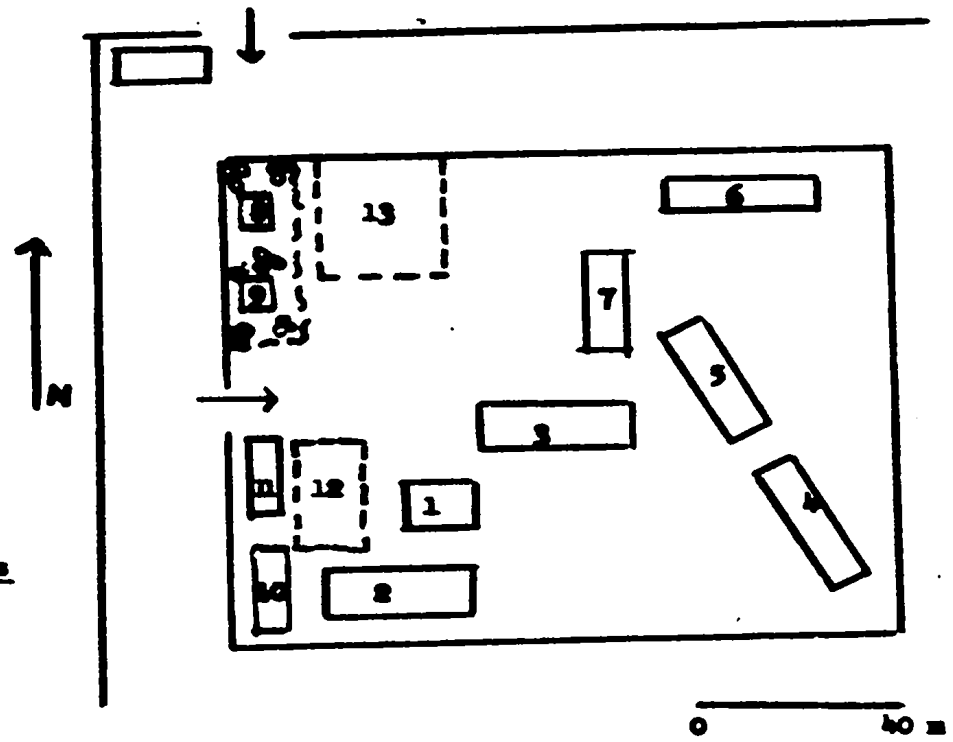

Soc-To Camp

Signal Unit Barracks

Enclosure B

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Legend of Soc-To Signal Unit Barracks

The signal section of the Soc-To military barracks contains the following:

1. Headquarters
2. Workshop
3. Building where courses are held (dorms and lecture halls)
4. and 5. Barracks for signal battalion
6. Magazine
7. Officers' club
8. and 9. Officers' one-family houses
10. and 11. Two buildings reserved for pilots from the airfield
12. Parking lot
13. Alarm place

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